

THE WORKER SISTERS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



BULLETIN



THE WORKER BROTHERS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



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**JESUS BEGINS
HIS PUBLIC MINISTRY
July 2019**

Bulletin Cover: Jesus Begins His Public Ministry — Luke 4:14-27

Internet Photo

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Community Communication Contacts:

Prayer Requests and News Notes for the monthly Bulletin - email Br. Ephrem, andrews8484@hotmail.com or see green sheets for his mailing address.

Changes of address, phone numbers, email addresses - email Sr. Christine casturges@gmail.com or Sr. Wendy Samuel virtue54@outlook.com or see green sheets for mailing addresses.

Urgent Community Prayer Requests for email distribution – email or call Sr. LaVerne Peter: Callaghgan@aol.com, Sr. Christine: casturges@gmail.com or Sr. Wendy Samuel: virtue54@outlook.com

Financial Contributions –

Members residing in the U.S., make checks payable to WSHS/WBHS and mail to:
Sr. Nancy Teresa, WSHS, Treasurer, United States, 12900 Glenwood Street, Apt. 108, Overland Park, KS 66209

If you pay any bills through your bank, you can easily send your contributions to WSHS the same way. Use the address above to send your check. You can make a one-time payment or a recurring payment. If you have questions, your bank will be happy to help you. And - you don't need any postage!

Members residing in Canada, make cheques payable to WSHS/WBHS and mail to Br. David, WBHS, Treasurer, Canada. 2170 Preston Road, Cavan Monaghan, Ontario, K9J 0G5 Canada

Contributions to Haiti Clean Water Project –

Check contributions to the Haiti Clean Water Project may be mailed to Sr. Alexandra Francis, WSHS 7711 E Waverly Street, Tucson, AZ 85715.

Please make your check payable to Alexandra Zarris. Put “WSHS Haiti Clean Water” in the memo line.

Problems Receiving your Bulletin - If you are not receiving the monthly Bulletin (by regular mail or by email), please email or call **Sr. Christine, *not Trina***. Thank you.

If a friend expresses interest in WSHS/WBHS, remember to direct them to our website, www.workersisters.org, www.workerbrothers.org

THE WORKER SISTERS AND BROTHERS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT	
Web Addresses: workersisters.org workerbrothers.org	
Trina Avedisian, Friend, WSHS	Layout & Design WSHS/WBHS Bulletin
Sr. Sharron Magdalene, WSHS	Proof Reader
Contributing Staff	
Br. Ephrem, WBHS	News Notes and Prayer List
Shirley Pace, WSHS	Calendar
Sr. Christine, WSHS	Co-Director
Sr. Wendy Samuel, WSHS	Co-Director
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CALENDAR

**CORPORATE COMMUNIONS
JULY 2019**

CORPORATE COMMUNIONS

Corporate Communion and meetings are held monthly where members are within physical proximity of each other. Currently these gatherings are taking place in the following locations. For more information, please contact the Community member listed below.

Ontario, Canada
Michigan USA
Kansas City, MO USA
Southern MO USA
Pleasant Hill, TN USA
Arizona USA
Illinois USA

Br. David, WBHS
Sr. Julie Margaret, WSHS
Sr. Dorothy Cecilia, WSHS
Sr. Barbara Veronica, WBHS
Sr. Janeen Julian, WSHS
Ginny Berkey, WSHS
Sr. Diane Richard, WSHS

CORPORATE COMMUNIONS FOR 2019

July 27 • August 24

September 28 • October 26 • November 23 • December 14

FALL CHAPTER
August 29 - September 1, 2019
Conception Abbey, Conception, Missouri

Call to Prayer. Please remember our Community in prayer twice a day 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM in your time zone and pray for World Peace at Noon.



8:00 AM - Prayer for our Community
12:00 Noon - Prayer for World Peace
5:00 PM - Prayer for our Community



COMMUNITY CHANGES

Please make the following alterations to your Green Sheets:

Karen Carter, WSHS has a new email address: kaccarter101@gmail.com



SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS

We realize that some of you do not have access to the email prayer requests that are sent out periodically. Therefore we are including these prayer requests that came to us in the month of May while we were preparing the June bulletin. Thank you for keeping these members of our Community in your prayers.

We were so pleased to hear from Br. Frantz Benedict on Pentecost -Whitsunday!! A copy of the e-mail has been sent to all and we rejoice to have heard from him. Please continue to hold Br. Franz Benedict, his congregation, and all ever so close in prayer!!

Blessings and love to all, Sr. LaVerne Peter, WSHS



FROM YOUR DIRECTORS
NAMETAGS

Sr. Lucia will submit a Name Tag order in early September. If you do not have a nametag, changed your name, lost or need a new nametag, please send your request and a check made out to WSHS by or before September 1, 2019 to: Sr. Lucia, 1700 S Goldsmith Avenue, Meridian, Idaho 83642-6698. The cost of a name tag with pin is \$7.00. The cost of a name tag with magnet is \$9.00.

REMEMBERING WSHS IN YOUR WILL

From Sr. Nancy Teresa, our WSHS/WBHS American Treasurer:

“Dear Community: Members who have left donations to WSHS in their wills have been a true gift to us. These gifts have enabled us to do more than we would have been able to do without them. We would be most grateful for any consideration.”

Sr. Brenda Faith, WSHS was ordained a Deacon on June 8, 2019 at Cathedral Church of St. Andrew in Jackson, Mississippi. Congratulations!



**Sr. Brenda Faith with her priest,
The Rev. Susan Hrostowski**



**Howard and daughter Barbara.
Barbara was one of Sr. Brenda's presenters**



SPIRITUAL SHARING

My spiritual journey has been a struggle lately; the house, workers, inspectors, boxes everywhere. My gardens are wrecked from storms. Reading about the fish and loaves makes me think maybe I have been led to this desert to be fed. I am sitting here complaining and overdone, but I am here for a reason. I need to be patient and still, so I can hear it. I am going to clean one garden and make it beautiful again. It is outside my bedroom window which has a seat, so I can look out on God's beauty and find the calm I so desperately want and know God wants it for me. I need to sit, give thanks, and let His love fill me.

My quiet time comes and goes, but I feel the presence of God more and more. I feel like my spirituality is more intentional. I find myself more peaceful; there is more of me to share, I open up to others in a way I didn't several years ago. I think probably I felt like God had abandoned me, although I never would have spoken those words. Looking back, though, I realize that I certainly believed I was on my own. But now, I know that I am in the arms of the Lord, and He will take care of me, no matter what life throws at me.

I enjoyed learning more about the prayer shawl in Sr. Pam Raphael's article. I hadn't thought that Jesus in his daily life would have walked around in his white prayer shawl, woven with blue thread. So he would have been identified, if by nothing else, that shawl. All would have known that he was an orthodox or practicing Jew. I liked Pam's imagining the woman who probably touched the tassels on his Talit and instantly felt his healing power enter her. I liked her image at the end of the article, of wrapping ourselves in our prayer shawls and allowing us to sense ourselves in God and connected to all of his creation. I believe that once we are connected to all His creation we are to take that connection seriously and act in some way that shows we get His message.

I came to a new view of Jesus as someone who was a Jew among Jews and who was steeply immersed in his Jewish faith but who also, through the Holy Spirit, had even a deeper knowledge of His Father than anyone around him. He wanted those who heard him to experience the love and compassion that His Father had for all of us. I would like to think that he wanted his listeners, which now include us, to experience Servant Leadership, Mercy, Justice, Humility, Love and Forgiveness on a deeper level. I see him more in the company of the Prophets who lived at different times but who always called us back to justice, mercy, love for the most vulnerable. Sr. Pam's knowledge of Jewish tradition, the Hebrew Language etc. has enabled her to give a vivid new look at the healing stories. I guess it was a new thought for me to think of Jesus wearing the white prayer shall with tassels as he journeyed through this world, preaching and healing.

I think I would share whatever food I had as far as possible. I am reminded of how many are really starving all over the world and wonder how can this be in today's world? When I visited Haiti, I knew food was scarce as well as the ability to cook what they had, but you wouldn't believe the tasty meals we were served, cooked outside over a camp fire.

What are my thoughts and insights regarding myself? Lots and lots tumble over in my mind. This last year has been one with the largest amount of change in my life, seemingly all at once. Yes, it has been over several months, but every day presents new challenges.

It is interesting to learn about the importance of the Jewish Prayer shawl to the Jewish people as well as Christians today. It brings the Gospel passage to life. The descriptions in the Bible of Jesus healing others pass from one generation to the next, and I know that Jesus does bring healing today. I also know that we will die “in God’s timing” and that we will go to be with Him.

Still Alive! I’m slowly getting my life back! I am expecting to live an almost normal life.

A spin-off from our Sunday School Group has resulted in a Saturday Morning small group. We are reading and discussing the Gospel of John - can’t get enough of it!! I use our WSHS Calendar each morning and I know I’ve read many of these passages many times before, but I always seem to find something that speaks to me like it was brand new! Our God is not boring!



FORMATION AND TRAINING

Jesus Begins His Public Ministry

By

Sr. Christine, WSHS



Sr. Christine lives in Windsor, Colorado and is our WSHS American Director. She became a Lay Worker in April 1994.

During these past months, we have been exploring the reality that Jesus was born a Jew, lived as a Jew and died a Jew. This has enriched our understanding of the culture in which he lived and it helps deepen our understanding of this man named Jesus. This month we look at Luke Chapter 4 which invites us to engage with the Jesus who is also divine, the Son of God.

After Jesus is baptized by John, he is “led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil...And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.” (Luke 4:1-2, 13). It is after this that Jesus returned to Galilee “in the power of the Holy Spirit” to begin his public ministry. He taught in various synagogues. That does not surprise us. We know he was raised a devout Jew and naturally went to the synagogue on the Sabbath Day.

Then in Luke 4:16-21, he comes to Nazareth, the town in which he was raised. As usual, on the Sabbath he went to the synagogue, the meeting place. He stood up to read,

¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me

to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,

to let the oppressed go free,

¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

²⁰And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

The text from Isaiah 61:2 reveals the divine purpose for his coming. The meaning of these verses can be studied in various ways to better understand their context in Jesus’ time and in our current age. However, these verses can also prompt us to look at what they mean in our own lives, both past and present. Each time I read these verses, my heart is quickened. The words remind me how my life has been changed and is changing as I grow in my relationship with Jesus who is God and man. In my life story, the poor include those poor in compassion and mercy. Captive encompasses being a slave to perfection and controlling behaviors. As I follow Jesus, I experience freedom and peace. How do these words speak to you? How are you being transformed in your daily encounter with the living Jesus, the son of God?

Jesus read verses that amazed and comforted some, but they angered many others. Luke continues in Chapter 4:22-24:

²²All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?” ²³He said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Doctor, cure yourself!’ And you will say, ‘Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.’” ²⁴And he said, “Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet’s hometown...”

Those who believed Jesus came to understand that he was the son of God and not simply the son of Joseph. Those who became angry did not. They did not see any need for their lives to change, or to help others in need. Who does this Jesus think he is? If he has indeed performed miracles elsewhere, do some here in Nazareth so we can see for ourselves if you are a prophet. Jesus did not comply. Because of their unbelief, he refused to perform any miracles. Luke tells us that those in the synagogue became enraged with Jesus and drove him out of town. They wanted to throw him down the cliff, but “passing through their midst, he (Jesus) went away.” Jesus did not get caught up in their reaction. He did not defend himself. Instead he moved on; he knew there would be others who would welcome him and believe him. That is good news for us!

Questions for Reflection
Sr. LaVerne Peter, WSHS

1. Sr. Christine shares with us that Jesus was born as a Jew, lived as a Jew and died as a Jew. As she says, “this has enriched our understanding of the time and culture in which he lived”. How have you seen our study do this for you?
2. In Luke 4:16-21 Jesus go to Synagogue and reads the text from Isaiah 61:2 that reveals the divine purpose for his coming. She shares that “each time she reads these verses her heart quickens and shares how much her life has been changed by those words.” She asks us “How do these words speak to you?” Take time to read the words again and reflect on that.
3. Again, she draws even deeper into our relationship with Jesus by asking “How are you being transformed in your daily encounter with the living Jesus – the son of God?’ Take quiet time and ponder and think deeply about that. You may even want to share some of your thoughts in your journal.
4. It is often difficult to return to our “home town” after being away and especially if there have been changes in your life – have you experienced that with loving acceptance or folks not being pleased? Often going “homeward” we are often called names they knew us as children and memories seem to over flow from the past but have you been you recognized as the person you now are?
5. As with the encounter Jesus had with the town folk, some were amazed and comforted but others angry and wanted Jesus to leave town right away to the point of wanting to toss him off a cliff. Jesus speaks openly to the group with words they did not want to hear. Jesus realizes that there is really no more to say and moves on. Quietly, place yourself in that crowd – would you have stayed enraged or moved on, unseen with Jesus and join him on the road ahead?